



S.J.Res. 13 – A joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding

FLOOR SITUATION

S.J.Res. 13 is being considered on the House floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) on May 21, 2007. The bill was passed by the Senate on October 2, 2007 by unanimous consent. Similar legislation was introduced in the House by Representative Peter Welch (D-VT).

S.J.Res. 13 is expected to be considered on the House floor on December 17, 2007.

SUMMARY

S.J.Res. 13 provides that Congress consents to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding entered into amongst the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut and the Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

The purpose of the compact is to provide for mutual assistance among the jurisdictions entering into this compact in managing any emergency or disaster when the affected jurisdiction or jurisdictions ask for assistance. These disasters may include natural disasters, technological hazards, manmade disasters or civil emergency aspects of resources shortages.

BACKGROUND

In July of 2000, The International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding (IEMAC) was accepted by the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers.

The approval of Congress is needed because the compact involves states and provinces in Canada and is similar to a treaty.

STAFF CONTACT

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